



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0023

PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

THOMAS A. DESJARDIN
ACTING COMMISSIONER

EXHIBIT #VII.A.

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Thomas A. Desjardin, Acting Commissioner*

DATE: October 14, 2015

SUBJECT: Request to Extend the Review of the University of Maine at Presque Isle's
Elementary, Secondary, and Physical Education Programs

BACKGROUND: The University of Maine at Presque Isle College of Education (UMPICE) is requesting the State Board of Education to extend the scheduled February 2016 visit to February 2017. UMPICE cites multiple faculty changes and institutional curriculum initiatives (detailed in the attached document) as the reasons for requesting an extension. UMPICE made the decision to maintain the academic offerings throughout the faculty changes and the implementation of new curriculum initiatives and not weaken the rigor of the educator preparation program. The requested extension will provide the needed time to adhere to this goal.

In the spring of 2017 the UMPICE will be fully staffed with implemented curriculum programs and ready to accept the State Board approved review team.

State Board Rule Chapter 114, Part 3.1 (e) reads as follows:

Requests for extensions for existing approval, due to extraordinary circumstances, may be granted at the discretion of the State Board of Education; however, such extensions shall not extend the date when the subsequent approval is due. The Board will only consider such requests in emergency situations.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education extend the review of the University of Maine at Presque Isle College of Education to February 12-15, 2017 and extend the current approval of the educator preparation program through midnight February 11, 2017. In doing so, the number of years to the next review scheduled for 2020 will be reduced by one year.

*Prepared by Ángel Martinez Loredó, Higher Education Specialist